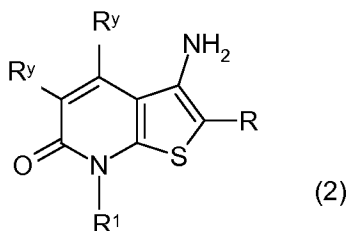


Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (2):



wherein R is a -CN, -NO₂, -CO₂Alk², -COC₁₋₆alkyl or -CONHet² group;

Alk² is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aroyloxyalkyl group;

NHet² is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group -CO;

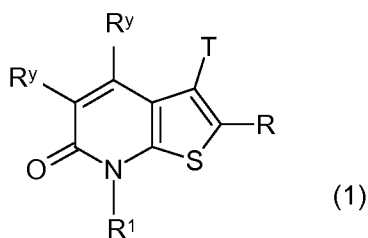
R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group; and

each R^y, which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor;

or a salt, ~~solvate, hydrate~~, protected derivative, or *N*-oxide thereof.

2. (original) A compound according to Claim 1 in which R¹ is an optionally substituted phenyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl, thienyl, indolyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl group.

3. (original) A compound according to Claim 2 wherein R^1 is an optionally substituted phenyl or cyclopropyl group.
4. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 1 in which each R^y is a hydrogen atom.
5. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 1 in which Alk^2 is a C_{1-6} alkyl group.
6. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R is a -CN, -CO₂CH₃, -CO₂CH₂CH₃, -COCH₃ or -CONHet² group.
7. (canceled)
8. (currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a ~~halide~~ compound of formula (1):



wherein R is a -CN, -NO₂, -CO₂Alk², -COC₁₋₆alkyl or -CONHet² group;

Alk² is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aroyloxyalkyl group;

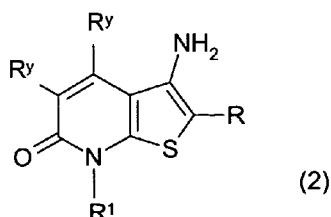
NHet² is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group -CO;

R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group;

each R^y, which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor; and

T is a halogen atom;

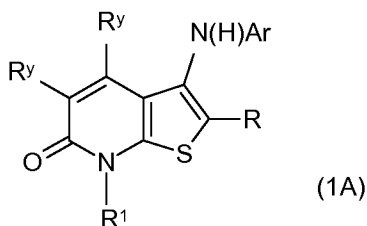
which comprises diazotization of a compound of formula (2)



followed by halide displacement.

9. (original) A process according to Claim 8 wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of an alkyl nitrite or a metal nitrite in the presence of an acid, followed by addition of a copper salt, in the presence of a solvent.

10. (previously presented) A process for the manufacture of a compound of formula (1A):



wherein R is a -CN, -NO₂, -CO₂Alk², -COC₁₋₆alkyl or -CONHet² group;

Alk² is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aroyloxyalkyl group;

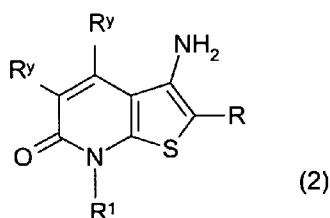
NHet² is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group -CO;

R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl group;

each R^y, which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor; and

Ar is an optionally substituted aromatic or heteroaromatic group;

which comprises reacting a compound of formula (2):



with a compound ArQ,

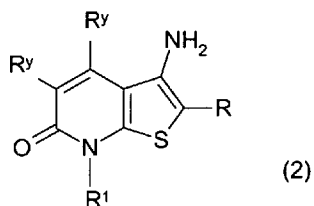
wherein Q is a leaving group,

in the presence of a transition metal catalyst.

11. (original) A process according to Claim 10 wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of a solvent, using a palladium catalyst, a phosphine ligand and a base.

12. (original) A process according to Claim 10 wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of a copper catalyst.

13. (previously presented) A process for the manufacture of a compound of formula (2):



wherein R is a $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{Alk}^2$, $-\text{COC}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$ or $-\text{CONHet}^2$ group;

Alk^2 is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aroyloxyalkyl group;

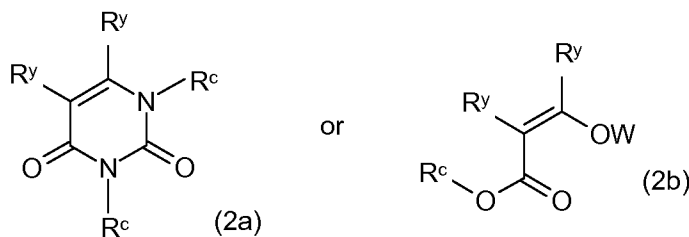
NHet^2 is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group $-\text{CO}$;

R^1 is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl group;

each R^y , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor;

which comprises the steps of:

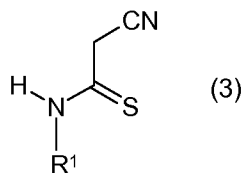
a) reacting a compound of formula (2a) or (2b):



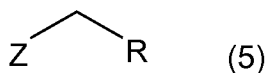
wherein R^c is an optionally substituted alkyl group, and

W is a hydrogen atom, a metal ion or an amine salt;

with a compound of formula (3):



b) followed by reaction with a compound of formula (5):



wherein Z is a leaving group.

14. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 13 wherein W is a metal ion.

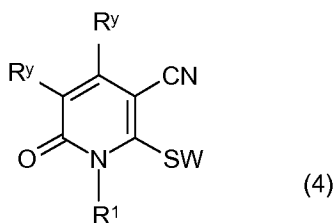
15. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 13 wherein step a) is performed in the presence of a base.

16. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 15 wherein the base is selected from a lithium base, a silazane, a carbonate, an alkoxide, a hydroxide, a hydride, an organic amine, and a cyclic amine.

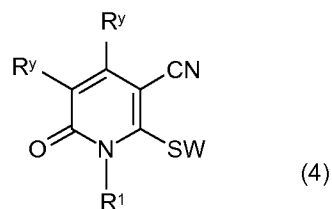
17. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 13 wherein the reaction is carried out in an organic solvent.

18. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 17 wherein step a) and step b) are each carried out in an organic solvent, which may be the same or different in each step, selected from an amide, an ether, an alcohol and acetonitrile.

19. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 13 wherein an intermediate of formula (4) is isolated after step a):



20. (previously presented) A compound of formula (4):

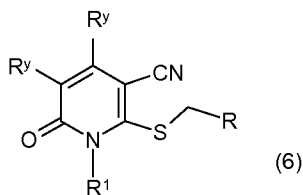


wherein R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl group;

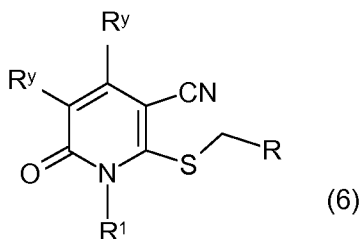
each R^v, which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor; and

W is a hydrogen atom, a metal ion or an amine salt.

21. (previously presented) The process according to Claims 13 wherein an intermediate of formula (6) is isolated during step b):



22. (previously presented) A compound of formula (6):



wherein R is a $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{Alk}^2$, $-\text{COC}_{1-6}\text{alkyl}$ or $-\text{CONHet}^2$ group;

Alk^2 is an optionally substituted alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, aryloxyalkyl, alkanoyloxyalkyl or aroyloxyalkyl group;

NHet^2 is an optionally substituted 4- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl group attached through a nitrogen atom to the group $-\text{CO}$;

R^1 is an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, or heterocycloalkyl group; and

each R^y , which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom or a hydrogen atom precursor.